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SOURCE

1. At present the Swiss Army has stocks of war materiel which it would like to sell in order to purchase new equipment. A large part of this equipment has been purchased by arms dealers and is stored in Geneva. The government of Pakistan recently ordered 90,000,000 Swiss francs worth of arms. However, because of intervention from British authorities, these could not be exported.

2. For the exporting of arms, the Swiss Government requires an export permit designating the country receiving the arms; this must be signed by both the ambassador of that country and by the Swiss Minister of War. There are means, however, of hiding the identity of the true purchaser. One of them is to make out export papers through the representative of a Latin American country. The following is a case in point: two dealers in Switzerland have been buying arms for a Syrian group located in San Remo, Italy. They have purchased from a private owner in Geneva a large quantity of new Sten guns which had been purchased from British surplus stocks two years previously and shipped

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shipped by way of Portugal. The transaction amounted to 12,000,000 Swiss francs;

3. Another cover for arms shipments may be devised by having an international transport company list the merchandise as scrap. Guns can be disassembled and the parts shipped separately (the wooden parts as furniture, etc.). This appears to have been done for small orders.

4. Illegal armament sales and deliveries are being made from Italy. Italian armament firms are selling in small quantities, and the goods are shipped through illegal channels from Italian ports. A certain Count Comito of Milan, who fought with the British during the war, has acquired the port of Viguzzo (sic) on the Italian Riviera from the Italian Government on the basis of a 99-year lease. Comito has constructed a railroad spur to the port. The three Italian officials stationed at the port, a customs official, a currency guard (guardia di finanza), and a police officer, are in Comito's pay.

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Naturally, any shipment in or out of the port is a comparatively easy matter. Shipments are of necessity small. A transaction was concluded for the delivery by this route of 1,000 new Breda machine guns during one month and an additional 1,000 the following month with 10,000 rounds of ammunition. (Comment: Gazeteers make no mention of a port of Viguzzo on the Italian Riviera.) 25X1A

5. Private agents in Italy are buying up old equipment that the partisans failed to turn in at the end of the war. An offer was made of 100 x 9 mm. anti-tank guns at 700,000 lire per gun, to be delivered to any Italian port. It is reported that most of this equipment is going to the Balkans.
6. Another offer was made of 10 new Spitfire planes in Austria, complete with guns and ammunition. The seller claims that they are surplus property of the British Army in Austria, but this appears unlikely. The planes probably make up a shipment which was diverted from its true destination, and which is now being sold on the black market, since the seller is seeking a buyer outside of Austria. However, the planes may be seen on demand. The price is \$80,000 per plane.

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